

from the Anth
THE

22a.

ORIGINATION

OF THE

GREEK VERB.

AN

MUSEUM
HYPOTHESIS.

R. Vincent (w.)

L O N D I N I:

SUMPTIBUS G. ET G. GINGER, JUXTA SCHOLAM REGIAM
WESTMONASTERIENSEM.

1794.

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HOC OPUSCULUM
REGIIS SCHOLÆ WESTMONASTERIENSIS
ALUMNIS,
CÆTERISQUE SUIS OMNIBUS
LITERARUM GRÆCARUM
STUDIOSIS,
D. D. D.
GULIELMUS VINCENT,
ARCHI-DIDASCALUS.

PROLOGUM

DEUS SCHOLAE WESTMONASTERIENSIS

ALUMNI

CELESTIS SIGILLUM

LITTERARUM

STUDII

DEI

CULTELLUS VINCENS

ALUMNI SIGILLUM

A 2

THE
O R I G I N A T I O N
OF THE
G R E E K V E R B.
AN HYPOTHESIS.

THE following hypothesis, intended for the simplification of the Greek verb, is proposed with some hesitation, both to those who have acquired a knowledge of the language, and those who are acquiring it. It is to be regarded merely as an hypothesis, till it shall have stood the test of time and examination.—If not true, it may be rendered useful in practice; and if it is founded, it will unravel one of the most complicated difficulties, that any language, hitherto known, has produced.

The difficulty of giving one clear and general idea of the Greek verb, to such as were commencing their study of the language, had long turned the mind of the author to some attempt of this kind, but it was not executed, and possibly never might have been, but for the publication of Mr. H. Tooke's ΕΠΕΑ ΠΤΕΡΟΕΝΤΑ. That work, which naturally suggests reflection to every mind that has considered the theory of language, in a logical, or grammatical view, contains the following passage, page 388.

“ For though I think I have good reason
 “ to believe, that all these terminations may
 “ likewise be traced to their respective origin;
 “ and that however artificial they may now appear to us, they were not originally the effect
 “ of premeditated and deliberate art, but separate words by length of time corrupted and
 “ coalescing with the words of which they are
 “ now considered as the terminations. Yet
 “ this was less likely to be suspected by others;
 “ and if it had been suspected, they would
 “ have had much farther to travel to their
 “ journey's end, and through a road much

“ more embarrassed ; as the corruption in those
 “ languages is of much longer standing than in
 “ ours, and more complex.”

The suggestions contained in this passage gave rise to the following speculation, which consists of neither more or less, than the assumption of the primitive verb ΕΩ as the origin of all terminations in the Greek verb, and the source of all its extensive variety *.

It is true, that in the external appearance of the Greek language, nouns appear to be derived from verbs, more frequently than the contrary : and this is in some degree apparent in most other languages ; but as Mr. H. Tooke has reduced all the parts of speech to two ; the Noun and the Verb ; in the language of nature, we may simplify still farther, and suppose the noun to be the root of the verb. It is nature that directs children to the names of things as the first words they utter, and the transition from the *Name* to the *Action*, that is, from the *Noun* to the *Verb*, may still be exemplified in our own language very distinctly. Heat, fire,

* The Greek verb, with its participles, is subject to more than eleven hundred variations, exclusive of the dialects.

thirst, hunger, love, fear, butter, barter, &c. all pass into the verb, without the change of a letter, by imparting *action* or *motion* to them, which is done by the addition of *Do* or *To*. This transition may be justly suspected to exist in all languages, though perhaps it is not now capable of demonstration. We must in Latin derive *Cautio* *Cautela* from *Caveo*, *Cavi*, *Cautus*, but we have great reason to suppose that *Cau* conceals some meaning which was the root of *Caveo*, as *Fraus* is evidently the root of *Fraudo*, *Fraudatus*, *Fraudatio*. It is not necessary, however, to prove this, or explore it farther, for if the probability, or even possibility of it is allowed, it is the only postulate that the hypothesis requires.

In the primitive structure of the Greek verb, let us admit λεγ, γραφ, φευγ, to contain the original *name* of the thing or action, which we may express like our English verb, without its sign, by *Speak*, *write*, *flee*. By adding ΕΩ to these Greek monosyllables, we add no more to the Greek primitive, than we do to the English by *Do*, or *To*, that is, we impart *action* or *motion* to the *name*, turn the noun into the verb,

and though we have no such noun in English as these, still without a sign or adjunct, we consider them as *names* as much as *heat*, *fire*, *revenge*; and in this, we have the old grammarians on our side, who received the infinitive mood as a *name* or *noun*.

Action and motion are so nearly allied that, as definitions are always dangerous ground to tread on, we may be mistaken; but the distinction seems to be this, that action has always a reference to an agent, and motion has not: it is therefore the more simple of the two; and this perhaps is the reason, that grammarians, after considering the *action* as *done* or *suffered*, and constituting the two voices, still refer to *motion* as the first principle of the verb on account of its greater simplicity.

But let us follow them a step farther: they call Εἰμι, the verb substantive, because; as they say, it can stand alone, and all other verbs they call adjectives, because, in their opinion, they all comprehend the verb Εἰμι, or depend upon it for support; thus Λεγω is Εἰμι λεγων. Λεγομαι—Εἰμι λεγομενος, &c. What then is the sense of Εἰμι? it is the verb that represents *ex-*

istence, and this too preeminently, that it is applied with peculiar energy and propriety to the Deity as Self-existent. "Εἰν αὐτοτελὴς τῷ Θεῷ προσαγόρευσις καὶ προσφώνησις. Plut. Εἰ apud Delphos, page 392. Thus far, therefore, we agree with the grammarians; but when they proceed to call it a passive voice, we must hesitate; for though it is a sign of the passive, it is itself neuter, the same as, *I exist*, in English.

It would have suited our purpose better if it had proved a passive of ΕΩ; but all the terminations of its persons are active, and, as such, we must trace it to its source. Let it be observed, therefore, that ΕΩ has its verb in μι, like other contracted verbs, and we shall now shew that ΗΜΙ* is the root of εἰμι, and all other verbs in μι. Σταω, Στήσω, Θεω, Θήσω, are to be considered as contracted; let us see how they adopt the termination in μι.

Ισα-ημι	Τιθε-ημι	Διδο-ημι	and so Εω—Ημι	Ημι
Ισημι	Τιθημι	Διδωμι	Ι-ημι	Ι-ημι
			Ι-μι eo	Ι-μι sum
			Ειμι	Ειμι

* ΗΜΙ is in one of the Sigeian inscriptions, and Ειμι in the other. Before Η ceased to be an aspirate Εμι and Ημι were the same word.

Here is a regular process from a contracted form to a verb in $\mu\iota$, which is complete, and the produce uniform, except that the accent serves to distinguish the two verbs produced, as $\epsilon\iota\mu\iota$ eo, $\epsilon\iota\mu\acute{\iota}$ sum. The latent cause for the addition of ϵ to $\iota\mu\iota$, though obscure, is perhaps to be found in the distinction established by this prefix between these two verbs, and another derivative of $\epsilon\Omega$, as $\eta\mu\iota$, $\iota\epsilon\text{-}\eta\mu\iota$, $\iota\eta\mu\iota$, mitto.

That this process is not merely conjectural, may be collected from the other moods of the verb in $\mu\iota$, for $\eta\mu\iota$ would form its moods regularly.

Pref. $\eta\mu\iota$ $\epsilon\theta\iota$ $\epsilon\iota\eta\nu$ Ω $\epsilon\nu\alpha\iota$ $\epsilon\iota\varsigma$
 Imp. $\eta\nu$.

and in like manner

Pref. $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\text{-}\eta\mu\iota$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\text{-}\epsilon\theta\iota$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\text{-}\epsilon\iota\eta\nu$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\text{-}\omega$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\text{-}\epsilon\nu\alpha\iota$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\text{-}\epsilon\iota\varsigma$
 $\Delta\iota\delta\omega\mu\iota$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\theta\iota$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\iota\eta\nu$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omega$ $\Delta\iota\delta\omicron\nu\alpha\iota$ $\Delta\iota\delta\upsilon\varsigma$

Impf. $\epsilon\delta\iota\delta\omicron\text{-}\eta\nu$
 $\epsilon\delta\iota\delta\omega\nu$

2. Ind. $\epsilon\delta\omicron\text{-}\eta\nu$
 $\epsilon\delta\omega\nu$

Pref. $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\text{-}\eta\mu\iota$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\text{-}\epsilon\theta\iota$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\text{-}\epsilon\iota\eta\nu$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\text{-}\omega$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\text{-}\epsilon\nu\alpha\iota$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\text{-}\epsilon\iota\varsigma$
 $\tau\iota\theta\eta\mu\iota$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\tau\iota$ * $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\iota\eta\nu$ $\tau\iota\theta\omega$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\nu\alpha\iota$ $\tau\iota\theta\epsilon\iota\varsigma$

* Because of θ in the preceding syllable.

Impf. ΕΤΙΘΕ-ΗΝ
ΕΤΙΘΗΝ

2. Ind. ΕΘΕ-ΗΝ
ΕΘΗΝ

Pref. ΖΕΥΓΥΝ-ΗΜΙ, &c.
ΖΕΥΓΥΜΙ

Impf. ΕΖΕΥΓΥΝ-ΗΝ
ΕΖΕΥΓΥΝ

It must be confessed, however, that this process does not come out so happily for the sense of the verb ΕΙΜΙ as for its form; for we ought to be able to deduce an idea, as clear as the structure. This is not so in fact: for if Εω and Ημι express *I do*, though we can plainly discover that ΤΙΘΕ-ΗΜΙ, ΙΣΤΑ-ΗΜΙ, signify *I do place**, *I do stand*, it is not in our power to trace Ι-ΗΜΙ Ιμι, in the same manner; for the result ought to be Εω *I do*, Ημι *I do*, Ι-ΗΜΙ Ιμι *I do exist*. But this does not follow; for the process would give Ιημι Ιμι *I do do*; this inconsistency, fairly acknowledged, will possibly open the way to the discovery by some one more skilled in metaphysical disquisition. But that Εω signifies *I do*, and Ιημι Ιμι ΕΙμι *I do exist*, there can be no doubt.

* Place—I do, ΤΙΘΕ-ΗΜΙ. Stand—I do, ΙΣΤΑ-ΗΜΙ.

In the application of ΕΩ to form the verb in Ω, let it be considered as the representative of *action* or *motion* indifferently, which, for the purpose of accommodation to our own language, we must express by *I do*; but the expression is very inadequate, because, like all the other auxiliary verbs in our language, it has only two tenses, *I do*, *I did*; while its correspondent ΕΩ supplies terminations for three voices; and this is the reason, that after exhausting these two, which are our whole stock, we must provide correspondent terms for the other tenses of the Greek verb, by other auxiliaries, *I am*, *I was*; *I may*, *I might*; *I can*, *I could*; *I shall*, *I should*, &c.

The Greek verb is distributed into six conjugations by some of the grammarians, which are reducible to four, by referring to the change of letters in the tenses instead of the characteristic letters; these letters depend upon the three first consonants of the alphabet Β Γ Δ, with the liquids Λ Μ Ν Ρ, for the fourth.—In the three first, Π Β Φ, Κ Γ Χ, Τ Δ Θ, are respectively called correspondent letters, that is, they are interchangeable, as convenience, or the organs of

speech require. In the fourth, each letter is independent.

But we shall now show, that notwithstanding the alliance of these letters, and their regular interchange, so far as relates to the distinction of conjugation, we may disregard them, and reduce the six or four conjugations to one. We will produce an instance of each.

Γραφ-εω

Γραφ-εσω

Γεγραφ-ημα

Γραφ-ω

Γραφ-σω

Γεγραφ-α

Γραπ-σω

Γραψ-ω

Λεγ-εω

Λεγ-εσω

Λελεγ-ηκα

Λεγ-ω

Λεγ-σω

Λελεχ-α

Λεκ-σω

Λεξ-ω

Πειθ-εω

Πειθ-εσω

Πεπειθ-ηκα

Πειθ-ω

Πειθ-σω

Πεπειθ-κα

Πει-σω

Πεπει-κα

Νεμ-εω

Νεμ-εσω

Νενεμ-ηκα

Νεμ-ω

Νεμ-εω

Νεμ-ω

To these four all the other characteristics are reduced by the grammarians, and first those

which have two letters, the last of which is disregarded.

ΠΤ, like the first conjugation.

Βλαπτ-εω	Βλαπτ-εσω	Βεβλαπτ-ηκα
Βλαπτ-ω	Βλαπ-εσω	Βεβλαπ-ηκα
	Βλαπ-σω	Βεβλαφ-α
	Βλαψ-ω	

ΜΝ, like the fourth.

Τεμν-εω	Τεμν-εσω	Τετεμν-ηκα
Τεμν-ω	Τεμ-εσω	Τετεμ-ηκα
	Τεμ-εω	Τετμ-ηκα
	Τεμ-ω	

Secondly, Ζ, Ω pure like the third conjugation.

Ω pure.

Θυ-εω	Θυ-εσω	Τεθυ-ηκα
Θυ-ω	Θυ-σω	Τεθυ-κα

Ζ.

Σωζ-εω	Σωζ-εσω	Σεσωζ-ηκα
Σωζ-ω	Σωζ-σω	Σεσωζ-κα
	Σω-σω	Σεσω-κα

Οἰμῶζ-εω	Οἰμῶζ-εσω	Ωμῶζ-ηκα
Οἰμῶζ-ω	Οἰμῶζ-σω	Ωμῶζ-κα
	Οἰμῶξ-ω	Ωμῶ-κα *
	for	
	Οἰμῶ-σω	

The last verb is introduced for the purpose of illustrating the double T, a conjugation less tractable than the others, and ascribed to the second conjugation. But the fact is, that whether written with a double Σ as it usually is, or with a double T, according to the Attic dialect, it is in either case to be referred to Z as its constituent letter; for Z consisting of Δ Σ one mode of pronunciation adopted T, the equivalent to Δ, and the other Σ; and the Dorians, moreover, transposed the letters into Σ Δ. One word will give an instance of all these varieties.—Φραζω, Φραδσω, Φρασδω, Dor. Φρασσω, Φραττω, Att. this will account for the structure of the conjugation in double T.

* Ωμῶκα does not occur. By the ordinary conjugation it ought to be ωμῶκα, but from the assumption of ξ in the future it should prefer ωμῶχα.

ΤΤ,

Ορυττ-εω	Ορυττ-εσω	Ωρυττ-ηκά
Ορυττ-ω	Ορυττ-σω	Ωρυττ-κα
	Ορυκ-σω	Ωρυχ-α with a χ
	Ορυξ-ω	deduced from
		the κ in the ξ
		of the 1st. fut.
Ορυσσ-εω	Ορυσσ-εσω	like λεξω, λε-
Ορυσσ-ω	Ορυσσ-σω	λεχα.
	Ορυξ-ω	

The application of ΕΩ to the construction of the verb is here instanced in ten examples, which exhibit all the characteristic letters in the language; these may be called ten conjugations, or six, or four; but they are still reducible to one single form, as appears by this scheme, and may in time come to be considered as one only. There is no violence used in the change of the correspondent letters, but what the genius of the language allows, and no syncope in the perfect, but what is founded upon the perfect of the fourth conjugation, and what takes place in other tenses as *εγαμῆσα, εγῆμα*.

If this formation of the principal tenses shall be allowed, we have only the second future and its dependants to account for; upon this

subject, professing to follow the steps of Dawes, and his commentator Mr. Burgess, we have no hesitation to declare, that no such tense exists. The examples given by Dawes of ελασω, ελαω, ελω; ολεσω, ολεω, ολω; which he considers as Ionic and Attic forms, explain the whole of this matter in every conjugation, γραφ-εω, γραφ-εσω, γραφ-εω, γραφ-ω. Θυ-εω, θυ-εσω, θυ-εω, θυ-ω. Λεγ-εω, λεγ-εσω, λεγ-εω, λεγω; and in the middle voice γραφ-εμαι, Θυ-εμαι, λεγ-εμαι; arising from the contraction and circumflexion of the active. The second future and second indefinite of the passive are not so evident, but in all appearance they are actually the same as the first future and first indefinite, suffering the syncope like εγαμησα εγημα, γραφε-θησομαι, γραφ-ησομαι, εγραφη-θην, εγραφ-ην; θυσ-εθησομαι, θυσθ-ησομαι, θυ-ησομαι; εθυσ-θην, εθυ-ην; λεγε-θησομαι, λεγ-ησομαι; ελεχ-θην, ελεχ-ην, ελεγ-ην.

The fourth conjugation seems to confirm this structure; Νεμω, Τεμνω, ψαλλω have both futures alike, as they necessarily ought to have, for νεμεσω must become νεμεω νεμω in both, and both, consequently, νεμεμαι in the middle voice. The passive νεμ-εθησομαι ενεμ-ηθην

ought to become νεμ-ησομαι ενεμην; but it is remarkable that Homer, who delights in what is called the second future and second indefinite, uses neither of these words. The second indefinite active and middle are the same as the imperfect, and require no discussion.

To this system no rational objection can be made, but the variation in the penultimate of some second Futures, as τρεπω τραπω, ληθω λαθω, &c. which Mr. Burgess is disposed to account for by referring them to another theme, as τραπεω*, λαθεω, &c. but there is no occasion to multiply themes; the transition is so easy, and the change so natural, that the desire of establishing a distinction is a sufficient cause to assign. The only reason, and a strong one it is, for Mr. Burgess's supposition, is the continuing of the change in the second indefinite. As to the change of the consonant in other second futures, it is no more than the interchange of the correspondent letters, which is indifferent.

βαπτ-εω, βαπτ-εσω, βαπ-εσω, βαπ σω, βαψω;
βαπτ-εσω, βαπ-εσω, βαφ-εσω, βαφ-εω, βαφ-ω

* Dawes Misc. Crit. page 373.

Καλυπτ-εω, καλυπτ-εσω, καλυπ-εσω, καλυπ-σω, καλυψω; καλυπεσω, καλυπεω, καλυπω, καλυβω. Ορυττεω, ορυττεσω, ορυττ-σω, ορυξω; ορυττεσω, ορυττεω, ορυτω, but from the κ in the ξ of ορυξω, ορυγω.

After thus establishing three of the principal tenses, and rejecting the fourth: the application of ΕΩ for the structure of the terminations, it is presumed, will appear neither forced or unnatural; but if any objection should remain, it may be hoped that the structure of the contracted verb will approach nearly to demonstration; for in that, the tenses all come out in full form. Τιμα-εω, τιμα-ω, τιμω; τιμα-εσω, τιμησω; τετιμα-ηκα, τετιμ-ηκα Φιλε-εω, φιλ-εω, φιλω; φιλε-εσω, φιλ-ησω; πεφιλε-ηκα, πεφιλ-ηκα. Χρυσο-εω, χρυσω, χρυσω; χρυσο-εσω, χρυσωσω; χεχρυσο-ηκα, χεχρυσωκα.

The moods of one will be sufficient to exhibit the remainder.

	Indic.	Imper.	Pot.	Subj.	Inf.	Part.
	Τιμα-εω	τιμα-εε	τιμα-εοιμι	τιμα-εω	τιμα-εειν	τιμα-εων
Pref.	Τιμα-ω	τιμα-ε	τιμα-οιμι	τιμα-ω	τιμα-ειν	τιμα-ων
	Τιμω	τιμα	τιμωμι	τιμω	τιμαν	τιμων
	Ετιμα-εον					
Impf.	Ετιμα-ον					
	Ετιμων					

This scheme gives not only the form and deduction, but proves the necessity of the long vowel in the contraction; for if λεγω gives λεγεσω, φιλε-εω regularly φιλε-εσω, φιλησω with the η.

But, perhaps, after producing ΕΩ in this manner, with its application, and endowing it with the sense of action or motion, it will be required of us to give a meaning to the adventitious initials, as well as the terminations, and the question will revert, What is the augment? We shall with some diffidence propose another speculation upon this point, in addition to the former.

The Greek verb assumes an augment upon six tenses; the imperfect, the two indefinites, the perfect, pluperfect, and paulopost future. Omitting the p. p. future for the present, let us consider the others. They all express the action as past, or preterite; but the past time is distinguished by four modes, that is, the action *while doing*; *when done*, in reference to time undefined; *when done*, in reference to time defined; *when done completely*, or more than done.

Imperfect. I was reading—Herodotus—at that time.

Indefinite. I have read—Herodotus—in the the course of my studies.

Definite. I read—Herodotus—at eighteen.

Pluperfect. I had read—Herodotus—before I looked at Pindar.

The connecting idea to all these is time past or preterite; and this preterite is expressed in Greek by the letter E. Why then may not E be an undiscovered fragment of EΩ, EON, or Eμi? Most probably of the last, and applied by the Greeks for denoting a time preterite: this, in the imperfect and indefinite, is taken simply; in the perfect, is covered, for distinction sake, by the repetition of the first consonant; and, in the completion of the action, adds E to E, preterite to preterite, that is, a just pluperfect. This accounts for all verbs beginning with a single consonant, or a mute and a liquid. But how does it appear in words commencing with a vowel, which not only take η but ω? It appears thus, αγω, εαγον, ηγον; but η being once long can be no longer; and

therefore εηχα and εεηχειν can only be ηχα and ηχειν; ορεγω, εορεγον, ωρεγον; εορεχα, ωρεχα; εεορεχειν, ωρεχειν; and that this is a fact, and not hypothetical, appears by those tenses called anomalies εαγη, εαλη, ην-εωχθην. Nay, it will be more evident still, by observing that verbs beginning with ι and υ take no augment at all. —They cannot: because these vowels considered as long, cannot be made longer.

And now let us consider the only remaining tense, that is the paulopost future; what is this but the augment of the perfect with the termination of the future? the union of time past with time to come? and which we express in English thus: After *I shall have read* Herodotus, I intend to attempt Pindar. The intimation of a future *immediate* may not be sufficiently expressed by our English words, nor is it quite admitted in the Greek verb by modern grammarians; but the coalescence of a past time with time to come, is an idea sufficiently clear.

Something ought to be said upon the tenses of the middle verb: for though the reciprocal sense is so ably elucidated by Kufter, it is still

a matter of doubt to some of the first grammarians of the present day. Kuster himself gives up the perfect and pluperfect. Dawes destroys the second future and second indefinite. The present and imperfect are the same as the passive in form, and not easily distinguishable by their sense. There remain, therefore, only the first future and first indefinite, which, perhaps, we ought rather to endow with this particular meaning, than make a whole voice to support them.

That these two tenses are really used with the reciprocal sense, can hardly be doubted, by those who have paid attention to the question; and yet another doubt arises, why they are not always used, where the sense seems to require them, and why the passive is frequently joined to the middle verb by the conjunction, or the structure of the sentence? Γ. 360.

Ὅδ' ἐκλίνθη καὶ ἀλεύατο κῆρα μέλαιναν.

Here one should naturally suppose that instead of ἐκλίνθη, a middle verb would have been used, and an active instead of ἀλεύατο; for though we can find a construction for both, as they now

stand, in conformity to Kuster's canon ; still his principle of the middle voice is violated.

A more striking instance than this occurs in the *Philoctetes* of Sophocles, 1106. Ed. Brunck.

Ὀλῶμαι

Ὅου φορβᾶν ἔτι προσφέρων.

Where the scholiast remarks *προσφέρων*—ἀντὶ τοῦ προσφερόμενος, and then mentions that in return *διακονέμενος* is used for *διακονῶν*, justifying in some measure an opinion of some of the scholiasts and grammarians, that the voices were sometimes confounded, an opinion certainly proceeding from an inaccurate idea of the primitive meaning of some particular verbs ; but we may see how this might happen in the usage of this very participle.

Active. Ὅου φορβᾶν προσφέρων, not supplying food.

Passive. Ὅου φορβᾶν προσφερόμενος, not being supplied as to food.

Middle. Ὅου φορβᾶν προσφερόμενος, not supplying food to myself.

But we are not bound to enter into the discussion of this question, which requires much greater investigation than can be given to it at present; our principal business is with the formation of the tenses, and those are already accounted for, except the perfect and pluperfect middle; and what they are, is one of the greatest mysteries of the Greek verb. The paradigm of *Γραφω* has been preferred upon the present occasion, because the perfect middle is the same as the active; and we should wish to establish this as a general principle; the perfect middle of the contracted verbs seems to favour this supposition, for *τετιμα*, *πεφιλα*, *κεχρυσα*, if there be such tenses, are the same as *τετιμηκα*, *πεφιληκα*, *κεχρυσωκα*, allowing for the syncope; but the variety of this tense, which depends, according to the grammarians, upon the characteristic of the second future active, is so extensive, that it is more just to state the conjugations as they stand, than to determine authoritatively upon the question.

The deduction, supposing them to be a variety of the perfect active, stands thus:

Perfect. Per. Mid.

Γραφεω	γραφεσω	γεγραφηκα	γεγραφα	γεγραφα
Λεγεω	λεγεσω	λελεγηκα	λελεχα	λελογα
Πειθεω	πεθεσω	πεπειθηκα	πεπεικα	πεποιθα
Νεμεω	νεμεσω	νενεμηκα	νενεμηκα	νενομα
Βλαπτω	βλαπτεσω	βεβλαπτηκα	βεβλαφα	* βεβλαβα
Τεμνεω	τεμνεσω	τετεμνηκα	τετμηκα	τετομα
Θυεω	θυεσω	τεθυηκα	τεθυκα	τεθυα
Σωζεω	σωζεσω	σεσωζηκα	σεσωκα	* σεσωζα or σεσωγα
Οιμωζω	οιμωζεσω	Ωμωζηκα	* Ωμωκα	* ωμωζα or ωμωγα
Ορυττω	ορυττεσω	ωρυττηκα	ωρυχα	ωρυγα

Here let it be observed, that in forming the perfect active from the perfect in *ηκα* of *εω*; the termination in *κα* or *χα* is preserved through all, except *βεβλαφα* and *γεγραφα*, which seems to account for the sameness of their two perfects †, active and middle. In all the others it appears that the *perfect active* is correpted by preserving the *κ* of *ηκα*;—the *perfect middle*, by neglecting the *κ*, and preserving the characteristic of the perfect active. If, therefore, upon

* The Tenses marked thus *, possibly do not exist.

† *Βεβλαφα* and *βεβλαβα* are the same, the correspondent letter being indifferent.

further inquiry, the sense of these two tenses should prove to be the same, as from Kuster's concession is reasonable to conclude, it is possible that the tenses themselves are the same, and differ only by a different mode of deduction, according to the various usage of dialects, or the various ages of the language. The change of the penultimate is the same as in the second future, and to whatever dialect the school of Dawes shall refer the formation of that tense, to establish its identity with the first future, to the same may we refer the identity of these two perfects, and the different mode of their formation.

The following paradigms of ΕΩ and ΓΡΑΦΕΩ, it is presumed will present the principles of this hypothesis clearer to the eye and the mind, than the most elaborate explanation. The supposititious changes are shewn by one character, and the existing tenses by another; there is no force used in the deduction, but what is agreeable to the organs, and nothing left dubious, but the formation of what is called the irregular second future, and its depen-

dencies. Both this and the perfect middle will be further considered, and the whole subject expanded and supported by authorities, if this sketch should meet with the approbation of those who are lovers of the language, and judges of its excellence.

There is only one monosyllable in the whole scheme which does not conform to the principle laid down; that is, the participle ΩN from $E\Omega$. This ought to signify [action or motion] *doing*; whereas it undoubtedly signifies [existence] *being*. But as this ΩN , when applied to the active verb, gives a termination to the participle present with two other active participles, and must in those instances express *doing*, there is reason to suspect, that some metaphysical sense lies concealed in ΩN as well as $EIMI$; and whether that may not be discovered by tracing up the relation between $E\omega$ and $E\mu$ as *cause* and *existence*, will be matter for future enquiry.

At present it is sufficient to observe that every form of the verb in the Greek language, whether simple or contracted, whether in Ω , or MI , or $OMAI$, is comprehended in this

scheme: for γιγνώσκω is only γιγνώ-εσκω, and the remains of εσκω are still visible in such tenses as ελάβεσκε, ἔησασκε, &c. There is one thing very remarkable in tenses of this kind, which is, their general rejection of the augment. The reason seems to be, that having εσκω in the termination, the repetition of it in the augment was superfluous, and perhaps it is never used without a solecism. A principle applying so universally as does this application of Εω to all the verbs in the language, may be thought to supply a sufficient proof for itself. It will apply equally to all the anomalous verbs; and those which are distinguished by adopting the characteristic of the first future in the present, as εἶπω, ἀλεξώ, αὐξώ, are nothing more than ἐπεσκω, ἀλεσκω, αὐεσκω, or αεσκω. Nothing remains but the termination in ανω; as μανθανω, λανθανω, and these will possibly be traced to another primitive.

The chief assistance toward the investigation of this subject, has been drawn from Villoison's Commentary on the Pastoral History of Longus. Those who are acquainted with that work will

perceive that fewer liberties are taken, and less violence used with the Greek verb, than he has done. Valkenaer, Dawes, Burges and Kuster, have all contributed their share; and whenever a regular treatise shall be prepared, their contributions shall be duly acknowledged, but nothing is due to Lennep, who, instead of simplifying the difficulties, has augmented them, by multiplying roots and themes without discretion.

It is not pretended that this scheme of the verb should supersede the necessity of acquiring the conjugations by those who are commencing their acquaintance with the language; but as soon as they comprehend the power of the respective characteristic letters, one month's practice in forming every Greek verb upon the model of ΕΩ, will give them a primary and general idea, which will never be obliterated from the memory. This will be equally useful in practice, whether the scheme is founded in fact or supposition, and as such it is offered both to those who teach, and those who learn. No proficient in the language can

look back to his own labour in the acquisition of conjugating a Greek verb, without wishing that the road should be shortened for others, and if this scheme should not answer that purpose, it will at least save the trouble of travelling the same journey so repeatedly, and sometimes without obtaining the object at the end of it.

VERBUM HYPO

Ε Ω.

Vox Activa.

Passiv

	Indic.	Impera.	Poten.	Subjun.	Infin.	Part.	Indic.	Impera.	Potent.	S
Pref.	ἔω ἦμαι	ἔε εἰ ἔθι	οἶμαι οἶσθιν εἶην	ἔω ῶ	εἶν εἶναι εἶναι	ῶν εἰς	εἰμαι εἰμαι	ἔεο ἔθε	εοίμην εἰμην	
Impf.	ἔον ῆν						εομένην			
1 Fut.	ἔσω		ἔσοιμαι		ἔσειν	ἔσων	ἐθήσομαι		ἐθήσοιμην	
1 Ind.	ἦσθα εἶσθα	ἔσθω	ἔσθαιμι	ἔσω	ἔσθαι	ἔσας	ἦθην	ἐθήτι	ἐθείην	
2 Fut.	ὦ *		οἶμι		εἶν	ὦν	ἐθήσομαι ἦσομαι vel ἔσομαι		ἐθήσοιμην ἦσοιμην ἔσοιμην	
2 Ind.	ἔον ῶ	ε	οἶμι	ὦ	εἶν	ὦν	ἦθην ῆν ῆν	ἐθήτι ἐθι ἐθε	ἐθείην εἶην	
Pref.	ἦκα ἦκα	ῆκε	ῆκοιμι	ῆκα	ῆκεναι	ῆκας	ῆκα ῆκα	ῆκο ῆκο	ῆκοιμι	
Plu. Perf.	ῆκαμεν						ῆκαμεν			

* The second future and second indefinite active appear in conformity to the paradigms in use, but do not and first indefinite. The second future middle the same as the first.

† The second indefinite middle the same as the imperfect.

Ε Ω.

Passiva.

Media.

Potent.	Subjun.	Infin.	Part.	Indic.	Impera.	Potent.	Subjun.	Infin.	Part.
εοιμην ειμην	εωμαι ωμαι	εισθαι εσθαι	εομενος εμενος	εομαι, &c. εμαι	εεσο εσο	εοιμην ειμην	εωμαι ωμαι	εισθαι εσθαι	εομενος εμενος
				εοιμην					
εσοιμην εθειην		εθησεσθαι εθηναι	εθησομενος εθεις	εσομαι ησαμην εισαμην		εσοιμην εσαιμην	εσωμαι εσωμαι	εσεσθαι εσασθαι	εσομενος εσαμενος
εσοιμην εθειην		εθησεσθαι ησεσθαι	εθησομενος ησομενος	εσομαι εομαι εμαι		εσοιμην εοιμην οιμην		εσεσθαι εεσθαι εισθαι	εσομενος εομενος εμενος
εσοιμην εθειην	εθω	εθεσθαι εθηναι	εσομενος εθεις	ωμην † εομην	εσο	οιμην	ωμαι	εσθαι	ομενος
εκειν ηκειν	ω	ειναι ησθαι	εις ημενος						

e, but do not exist. The second future and second indefinite passive are only corrections of the first future

VOX ACTIVA.

No. 2.

	Indic.	Imperative	Potent.	Subjunct.	Infinitive	Particip.
Pref.	γραφ-εω γραφ-ω	γραφ-εε γραφ-ε	γραφ-εοιμι γραφ-οιμι	γραφ-εω γραφ-ω	γραφ-ειν γραφ-ειν	γραφ-εων γραφ-ων
Impf.	εγραφ-εον εγραφ-ον					
1 Fut.	γραφ-εσω γραπ-εσω γραφ-ω γραφ-ω		γραφ-εσοιμι γραπ-εσοιμι γραφ-σοιμι γραφ-σοιμι		γραφ-εσειν γραπ-εσειν γραφ-σειν γραφ-σειν	γραφ-εσων γραπ-εσων γραφ-σων γραφ-σων
1 Indef.	εγραφ-εσα εγραπ-εσα εγραφ-σα εγραφ-α	γραφ-εσον γραπ-εσον γραφ-φον γραφ-ον	γραφ-εσαιμι γραπ-εσαιμι γραφ-σαιμι γραφ-σαιμι	γραφ-εσω γραπ-εσω γραφ-σω γραφ-ω	γραφ-εσαι γραπ-εσαι γραφ-σαι γραφ-αι	γραφ-εσας γραπ-εσας γραφ-σας γραφ-ας
Fut. 2dum idem ac pri- mum reject: σ ut ελαω.	γραφ-εσω γραφ-εω γραφ-ω		γραφ-εσοιμι γραφ-εοιμι γραφ-οιμι		γραφ-εσειν γραφ-εειν γραφ-ειν	γραφ-εσων γραφ-εων γραφ-ων
2 Indef.	εγραφ-εσον a γραφ- εσω sed potius εγραφ-εον ut impf. εγραφ-ον	γραφ-εε γραφ-ε	γραφ-εοιμι γραφ-οιμι	γραφ-εω	γραφ-εειν	γραφ-εων
Perf.	εγραφ-ηκα εγραφ-α	εγραφ-ηκε εγραφ-ε	εγραφ-ηκοιμι εγραφ-οιμι	εγραφ-ηκω εγραφ-ω	εγραφ-ηεναι εγραφ-εναι	εγραφ-ηκως εγραφ-ως
Plu. Perf.	εγεγραφ-ηκειν εγεγραφ-ειν					

	Indic.	Imperat.	Potent.	Subjunct.	Infinitive	Particip.
Pref.	γραφ-εομαι γραφ-ομαι	γραφ-εο γραφ-εο-ε	γραφ-εοιμην γραφ-οιμην	γραφ-εωμαι γραφ-ωμαι	γραφ-εεσθαι γραφ-εσθαι	γραφ-εομενος γραφ-ομενος
Impf.	εγραφ-εομην εγραφ-ομην					
1 Fut.	γραφ-εθησομαι γραφ-θησομαι		γραφ-εθησοιμην γραφ-θησοιμην		γραφ-εθησεσθαι γραφ-θησεσθαι	γραφ-εθησομενος γραφ-θησομενος
1 Indef.	εγραφ-ηθην εγραφ-θην	γραφ-εθητι γραφ-θητι	γραφ-εθειην γραφ-θειην	γραφ-εθω γραφ-θω	γραφ-εθηναι γραφ-θηναι	γραφ-εθεις γραφ-θεις
2 Fut. idem ac Fut. 1.	γραφ-εθησομαι γραφ-θησομαι γραφ-ησομαι		γραφ-εθησοιμην γραφ-θησοιμην γραφ-ησοιμην		γραφ-εθησεσθαι γραφ-θησεσθαι γραφ-ησεσθαι	γραφ-εθησομενος γραφ-θησομενος γραφ-ησομενος
2 Indef. idem ac Indef. 1.	εγραφ-ηθην εγραφ-θην εγραφ-ην	γραφ-εθητι γραφ-θητι γραφ-ητι	γραφ-εθειην γραφ-θειην γραφ-ειην	γραφ-εθω γραφ-θω γραφ-ω	γραφ-εθηναι γραφ-θηναι γραφ-ηναι	γραφ-εθεις γραφ-θεις γραφ-εις
Perf.	Γεγραφ-ημαι Γεγραφ-μαι Γεγραπ-μαι Γεγραμ-μαι	Γεγραφ-ησο Γεγραφ-σο Γεγραπ-σο Γεγραψ-ο	Γεγραφ-ημην Γεγραφ-μην Γεγραπ-μην quod quia durius sonat. Γεγραμ-μενος ειην	Γεγραφ-ωμαι Γεγραμ-μενος ω	Γεγραφ-ησθαι Γεγραφ-σθαι Γεγραπ-θαι Γεγραφ-θαι	Γεγραφ-ημενος Γεγραφ-μενος Γεγραπ-μενος Γεγραμ-μενος
Plu. Perf.	εγεγραφ-ημην εγεγραφ-μην εγεγραπ-μην εγεγραμ-μην					

	Indic.	Imperat.	Potent.	Subjunct.	Infinitive	Particip.
Pref.*	γραφ-εσμαι γραφ-ομαι	γραφ-εσο γραφ-εο. γραφ-ε	γραφ-εοιμην γραφ-οιμην	γραφ-εωμαι γραφ-ωμαι	γραφ-εσθαι γραφ-εσθαι	γραφ-εομενος γραφ-ομενος
Impf.	εγραφ-εοιμην εγραφ-οιμην					
1 Fut.	γραφ-ισομαι γραπ-ισομαι γραπ-σομαι γραφ-ομαι		γραφ-ισοιμην γραπ-ισοιμην γραπ-σοιμην γραφ-οιμην		γραφ-ισεσθαι γραπ-ισεσθαι γραπ-σεσθαι γραφ-εσθαι	γραφ-ισομενος γραπ-ισομενος γραπ-σομενος γραφ-ομενος
1 Indef.	εγραφ-εσαμην εγραπ-εσαμην εγραπ-σαμην εγραφ-αμην	γραφ-εσαι γραπ-εσαι γραπ-σαι γραφ-αι	γραφ-εσαιμην γραπ-εσαιμην γραπ-σαιμην γραφ-αιμην		γραφ-εσασθαι γραπ-εσασθαι γραπ-σασθαι γραφ-ασθαι	γραφ-εσαμενος γραπ-εσαμενος γραπ-σαμενος γραφ-αμενος
2 Fut.	γραφ-εσμαι γραφ-εσμαι γραφ-εσμαι		γραφ-εσοιμην γραφ-εσοιμην γραφ-οιμην		γραφ-εσεσθαι γραφ-εσεσθαι γραφ-εσεσθαι	γραφ-εσομενος γραφ-εσομενος γραφ-εσομενος
2 Indef.	εγραφ-εσοιμην εγραφ-εσοιμην εγραφ-οιμην	γραφ-εσο γραφ-εο γραφ-ε	γραφ-εσοιμην γραφ-εσοιμην γραφ-οιμην	γραφ-εωμαι γραφ-εωμαι γραφ-ωμαι	γραφ-εσεσθαι γραφ-εσεσθαι γραφ-εσεσθαι	γραφ-εσομενος γραφ-εσομενος γραφ-ομενος
Perf.	γεγραφ-ηκα γεγραφ-α	γεγραφ-ηκε γεγραφ-ε	γεγραφ-ηκοιμι γεγραφ-οιμι	γεγραφ-ηω γεγραφ-ω	γεγραφ-ηεναι γεγραφ-εναι	γεγραφ-ηκως γεγραφ-ως
Plu. Perf.	εγεγραφ-ηκειν εγεγραφ-ειν					

Vox Activa.

Vox Passiva.

	Indic.	Impera.	Potent.	Subjunct.	Infinitive.	Particip.	Indic.	Impera.	Potent.	Subjunct.	Infinitive.	Particip.
Pref.	Γραφ-εω Γραφ-ω	Γραφ-ε Γραφ-ε	Γραφ-εοιμι Γραφ-οιμι	Γραφ-εω Γραφ-ω	Γραφ-ειν Γραφ-ειν	Γραφ-ων Γραφ-ων	Γραφ-εομαι Γραφ-ομαι	Γραφ-εο Γραφ-ε	Γραφ-εοιμην Γραφ-οιμην	Γραφ-εωμαι Γραφ-ωμαι	Γραφ-εσθαι Γραφ-εσθαι	Γραφ-ομενος Γραφ-ομενος
Impf.	εγραφ-εον εγραφ-ον						εγραφ-εοιμην εγραφ-οιμην					
1 Fut.	Γραφ-εσω Γραπ-εσω Γραπ-σω Γραψ-ω		Γραφ-εσοιμι Γραπ-εσοιμι Γραπ-σοιμι Γραψ-οιμι		Γραφ-εσειν Γραπ-εσειν Γραπ-σειν Γραψ-ειν	Γραφ-εσων Γραπ-εσων Γραπ-σων Γραψ-ων	Γραφ-εθισομαι Γραπ-εθισομαι Γραπ-θισομαι Γραψ-θισομαι		Γραφ-εθισοιμην Γραπ-εθισοιμην Γραπ-θισοιμην Γραψ-θισοιμην		Γραφ-εθισεσθαι Γραπ-εθισεσθαι Γραπ-θισεσθαι Γραψ-θισεσθαι	Γραφ-εθισομενος Γραπ-εθισομενος Γραπ-θισομενος Γραψ-θισομενος
1 Indef.	εγραφ-εσα εγραπ-εσα εγραπ-σα εγραψ-α	Γραφ-εσον Γραπ-εσον Γραπ-σον Γραψ-ον	Γραφ-εσαιμι Γραπ-εσαιμι Γραπ-σαιμι Γραψ-αιμι	Γραφ-εσω Γραπ-εσω Γραπ-σω Γραψ-ω	Γραφ-εσαι Γραπ-εσαι Γραπ-σαι Γραψ-αι	Γραφ-εσας Γραπ-εσας Γραπ-σας Γραψ-ας	εγραφ-εθην εγραπ-εθην εγραπ-θην εγραψ-θην	Γραφ-εθητι Γραπ-εθητι Γραπ-θητι Γραψ-θητι	Γραφ-εθειν Γραπ-εθειν Γραπ-θειν Γραψ-θειν	Γραφ-εθω Γραπ-εθω Γραπ-θω Γραψ-θω	Γραφ-εθηναι Γραπ-εθηναι Γραπ-θηναι Γραψ-θηναι	Γραφ-εθεις Γραπ-εθεις Γραπ-θεις Γραψ-θεις
Nomin. 2 Fut.	Γραφ-εσω Γραπ-εσω Γραπ-ω		Γραφ-εσοιμι Γραπ-εσοιμι Γραπ-οιμι		Γραφ-εσειν Γραπ-εσειν Γραπ-ειν	Γραφ-εσων Γραπ-εσων Γραπ-ων	Γραφ-εθισομαι Γραπ-εθισομαι Γραπ-θισομαι Γραψ-θισομαι		Γραφ-εθισοιμην Γραπ-εθισοιμην Γραπ-θισοιμην Γραψ-θισοιμην		Γραφ-εθισεσθαι Γραπ-εθισεσθαι Γραπ-θισεσθαι Γραψ-θισεσθαι	Γραφ-εθισομενος Γραπ-εθισομενος Γραπ-θισομενος Γραψ-θισομενος
Nomin. 2 Indef.	εγραφ-εσον * εγραπ-εσον εγραπ-ον	Γραφ-εσε Γραπ-εσε Γραπ-ε	Γραφ-εσοιμι Γραπ-εσοιμι Γραπ-οιμι	Γραφ-εσω Γραπ-εσω Γραπ-ω	Γραφ-εσειν Γραπ-εσειν Γραπ-ειν	Γραφ-εσων Γραπ-εσων Γραπ-ων	εγραφ-εθην εγραπ-εθην εγραπ-θην εγραψ-θην	Γραφ-εθητι Γραπ-εθητι Γραπ-θητι Γραψ-θητι	Γραφ-εθειν Γραπ-εθειν Γραπ-θειν Γραψ-θειν	Γραφ-εθω Γραπ-εθω Γραπ-θω Γραψ-θω	Γραφ-εθηναι Γραπ-εθηναι Γραπ-θηναι Γραψ-θηναι	Γραφ-εθεις Γραπ-εθεις Γραπ-θεις Γραψ-θεις
Perf.	γεγραφ-ηκα γεγραφ-κα γεγραπ-α	γεγραφ-ηκε γεγραφ-κε γεγραπ-ε	γεγραφ-ηκοιμι γεγραφ-κοιμι γεγραπ-οιμι	γεγραφ-ηκω γεγραφ-κω γεγραπ-ω	γεγραφ-ηκειαι γεγραφ-κειαι γεγραπ-ειν	γεγραφ-ηκως γεγραφ-κως γεγραπ-ων	γεγραφ-ημαι γεγραπ-μαι γεγραπ-μαι	γεγραφ-ησο γεγραπ-σο γεγραπ-σο	γεγραφ-ημην γεγραπ-μην γεγραπ-μην	γεγραφ-ωμαι γεγραπ-ωμαι γεγραπ-ωμαι	γεγραφ-ησθαι γεγραπ-σθαι γεγραπ-σθαι	γεγραφ-ημενος γεγραπ-μενος γεγραπ-μενος
Plu. Perf.	εγεγραφ-ημεν εγεγραφ-μεν εγεγραπ-μεν						εγεγραφ-ημεν εγεγραπ-μεν εγεγραπ-μεν					

* The second indefinite active, if not the same as the imperfect, is formed from γραφω, as here represented.—The second indefinite passive is either a correction of the first indefinite, or formed from ην the nominal second indefinite, but real imperfect of ειμι or ημι. The second future passive is merely the correction of the first.

† Γεγραμμενος ειην, γεγραμμενος ω, both for the sake of euphony; the regular potent; perfect is formed harshly, the subjunctive cannot be formed distinct.

Paulo post future; composed of an augment preterite, and termination future.

1 Fut. middle, with a reflective sense, properly the reciprocal future. Γραφεσθαι by means of γεγραφεσθαι gives γραψεσθαι the nominal second future middle.

1 Indef. middle; properly reciprocal indef.

Nominal perfect middle; properly the same as the Active.

γεγραφ-εσομαι γεγραπ-σομαι γεγραπ-σομαι γεγραψ-ομαι					
Γραφ-εσομαι Γραπ-εσομαι Γραπ-εσομαι Γραψ-ομαι		Γραφ-εσοιμην Γραπ-εσοιμην Γραπ-εσοιμην Γραψ-οιμην		Γραφ-εσοσθαι Γραπ-εσοσθαι Γραπ-εσοσθαι Γραψ-οσθαι	Γραφ-εσομενος Γραπ-εσομενος Γραπ-εσομενος Γραψ-ομενος
εγραφ-εσαιμην εγραπ-εσαιμην εγραπ-εσαιμην εγραψ-αιμην	Γραφ-εσαι Γραπ-εσαι Γραπ-εσαι Γραψ-αι	Γραφ-εσαιμην Γραπ-εσαιμην Γραπ-εσαιμην Γραψ-αιμην	Γραφ-εσωμαι Γραπ-εσωμαι Γραπ-εσωμαι Γραψ-ωμαι	Γραφ-εσαισθαι Γραπ-εσαισθαι Γραπ-εσαισθαι Γραψ-ωσθαι	Γραφ-εσαιμενος Γραπ-εσαιμενος Γραπ-εσαιμενος Γραψ-ωμενος
γεγραφ-ηκα γεγραφ-κα γεγραπ-α	γεγραφ-ηκε γεγραφ-κε γεγραπ-ε	γεγραφ-ηκοιμι γεγραφ-κοιμι γεγραπ-οιμι	γεγραφ-ηκω γεγραφ-κω γεγραπ-ω	γεγραφ-ηκειαι γεγραφ-κειαι γεγραπ-ειν	γεγραφ-ηκως γεγραφ-κως γεγραπ-ων